Indiana Historical Bureau

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New Albany will dedicate three state historical markers

Three public dedication ceremonies for Indiana state historical markers are scheduled for May 20 and May 21, 2005. The state historical marker honoring New Albany's Carnegie Library will be dedicated on May 20, 2005, 4:30 p.m. (E.D.T.), at 210 East Spring Street, New Albany, Floyd County. The state historical marker honoring Fairview Cemetery will be dedicated May 21, 2005, at 11 a.m. (E.D.T.), at 800 E. Sixth Street, New Albany, Floyd County. The state historical marker honoring Division Street School will be dedicated May 21, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. (E.D.T.), at 1803 Conservative Street, New Albany, Floyd County.

The text follows for the state marker entitled New Albany's Carnegie Library:

New Albany School Board organized a public library on May 8, 1884. This library building, supported with funds from Andrew Carnegie, opened on March 2, 1904 with 11,125 volumes. Building is Neoclassical style, constructed of brick and limestone. Public Library moved to new building 1969. Floyd County Museum opened here 1971. Carnegie building included in Downtown Historic District, listed in National Register of Historic Places 1999. One of 1,679 libraries built in U.S. with funds from philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. Indiana built more Carnegie libraries than any other state.

The text follows for the state marker entitled Fairview Cemetery:

New Albany's second city cemetery, Northern Burial Ground, was officially created July 30, 1841 when D. W. and Margaret Wilson sold land to the city. The first burial took place the following day. In 1864 and 1875, the city made additions and improvements, perhaps influenced by a national movement to create a park-like atmosphere in cemeteries. In 1890, lot owners paid for construction of the iron entrance gate. Name was changed to Fairview Cemetery and ornamental archway added 1896. Some of earliest vaults date to mid-1800s. Many prominent individuals, including Indiana Governor Ashbel P. Willard, local civic leaders, and victims of an 1844 steamboat disaster are among those buried here.

(continued)

The text follows for the state marker entitled Division Street School:

Because of the growing number of African-American school-age children, the New Albany School Board authorized a new elementary school for them June 1884. It opened here 1885. An 1869 Indiana law had mandated education of colored children, with separate enumeration and separate schools supported with tax revenue within the common school system. Improvements and repairs were made over the years. The still-segregated school closed 1946. Friends of Division Street School was organized 1999 for restoration of the building. Restoration has been a joint project of the Friends and New Albany/Floyd County School Corporation. Building listed in National Register of Historic Places 2002.

Everyone is invited to attend these dedications recognizing New Albany's rich history.

The installation of historical markers, commemorating significant Indiana individuals, places, and events, helps communities throughout Indiana present, promote, and preserve their history for both citizens and tourists. Via the Internet, that history is reaching a worldwide audience.

For decades the Indiana Historical Bureau, State of Indiana has administered the Indiana Historical Marker program. These markers have the familiar dark blue background with gold lettering and the outline of the state of Indiana at the top. There are 456 of these markers across the state.

For a digital version of this release and further information about this marker, the state Historical Marker Program, and other resources about Indiana, visit the Indiana Historical Bureau Web site at www.IN.gov/history or call 317-232-2537.